

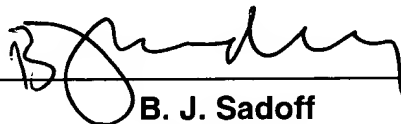
NASSIF et al
Serial No. 09/928,457

the Examiner in the parent application Serial No. 09/214,759, (i.e., Examiner Portner), on March 15, 2002. Examiner Portner responded to the undersigned by telephone on March 19, 2002, stating that an interview could not be held with her prior to the Examiner's supervisor (i.e., Examiner Smith) assigning the above-identified application, which would not be done until the applicants responded to the Notice to File Missing Parts and the application was released from OIPE. The applicants request an interview with the Examiner prior to issuance of a first Action. The Examiner will appreciate that the applicants will need to arrange for travel and consideration of the time involved is requested as the applicants are interested in having an interview to resolve as many of the outstanding issues as possible prior to a first Action on the merits. The Examiner is requested therefore to contact the undersigned to arrange an interview convenient to all parties as soon as possible after the application is assigned to an Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



B. J. Sadoff

Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:eaw

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